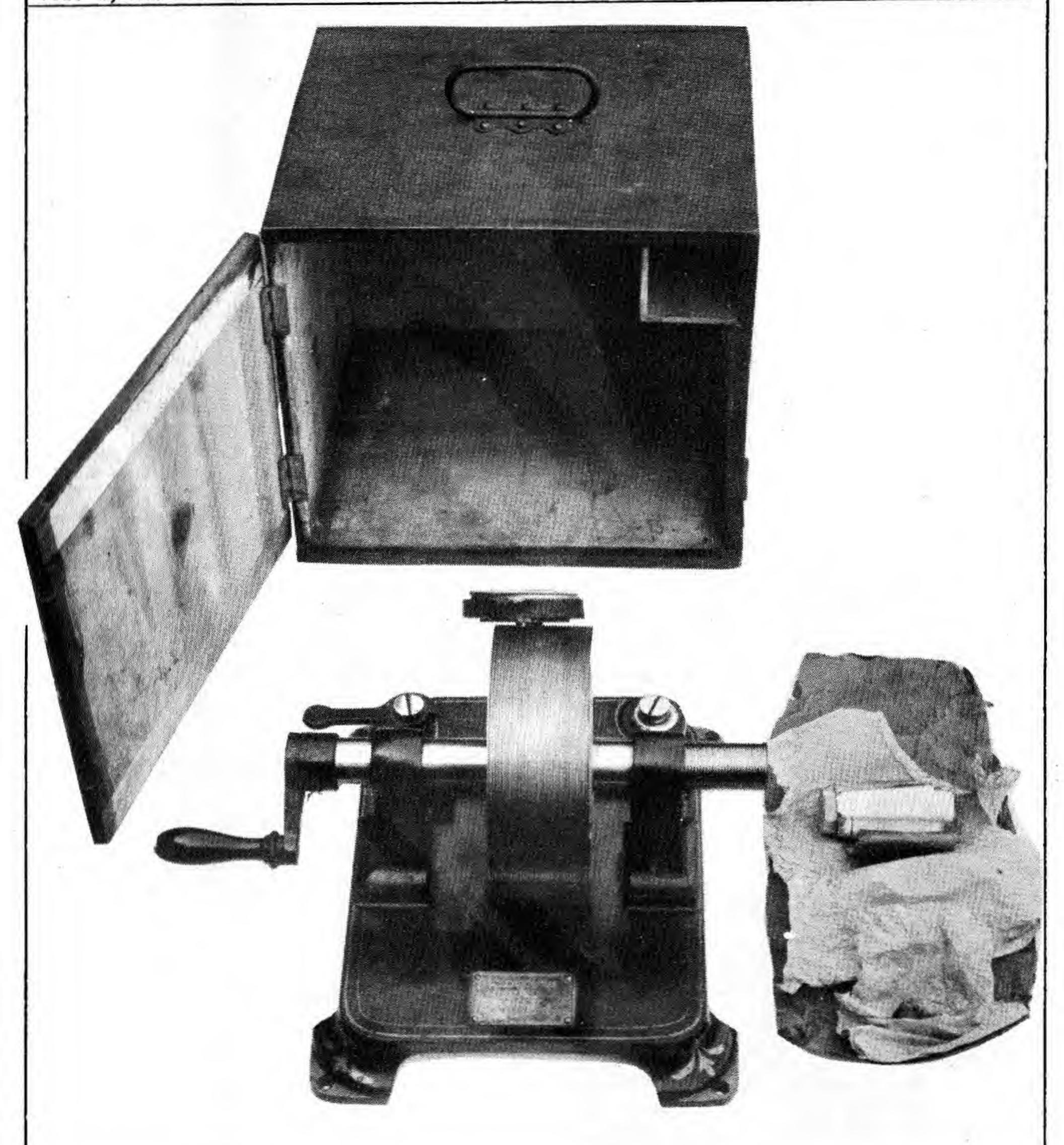
ANTIQUE PHONOGRAPH MONTHLY

Vol. I, No. 5

Brooklyn, N. Y.

May 1973



RARE TINFOIL PHONOGRAPH FOUND OVERSEAS

In the first year of the phonograph's invention, tinfoil models were made in limited quantities all over the world. The picture above and on p. 2 shows a magnificent French tinfoil phonograph made by E. Hardy in 1878. Recently discovered by Prof. Phillip Petersen in France, it was found in the original wooden carrying case and with ten sheets of tin-

PLEASE NOTE: All ads for the June - July issue must be received before June 11, 1973. Remember, when you advertise in APM, you get results!

foil on a wooden spool. Weighing just under 20 pounds, it is basically the model described by Count du Moncel in the French first-edition of his work The Telephone, The Microphone, and the Phonograph. Marked with serial number 360, it is in mint condition, and records at 17 threads to the inch. We hope to discuss Count du Moncel and the French tinfoil phonograph in a later issue.

THE ANTIQUE PHONOGRAPH MONTHLY is published ten times a year, appearing in double issues for June-July and August-September. It is mailed first class to subscribers in the U.S.A. and Canada, and via surface or airmail to overseas. APM welcomes articles and news of interest to its readers and offers its advertising pages to all at reasonable rates. Please notify us promptly of your change of address to insure receiving your copies on time.

Please send all correspondence, subscription orders and advertising to:

Allen Koenigsberg 250 East 45th Street Brooklyn, N. Y. 11203 (212) 773-3944

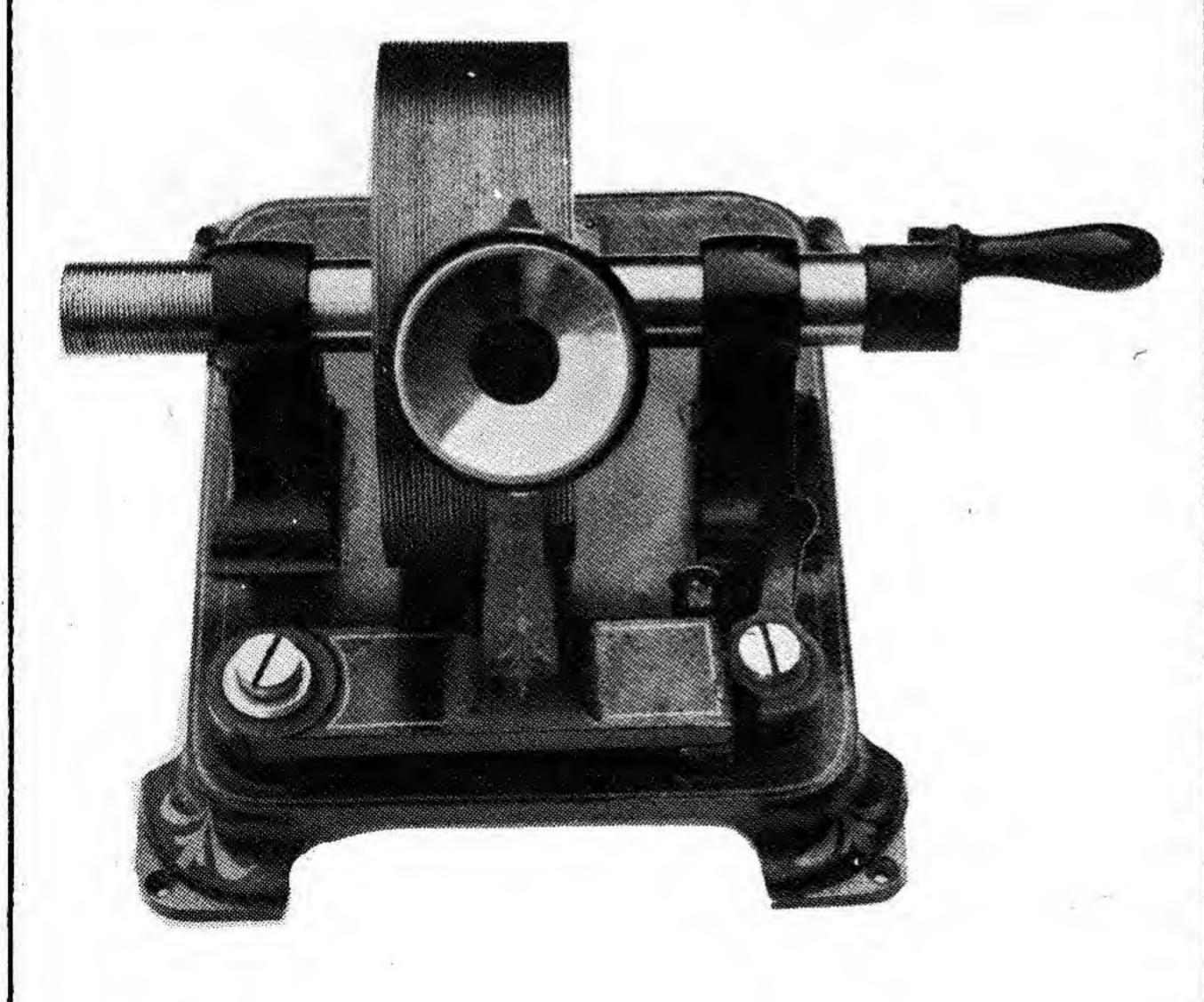
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5.50	4.95	4.40
3.00/i	n. 2.75/i	n. 2.50/in.
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Please multiply the price-per-ad by the number of times you wish the ad to appear. Thank you! The 1973 APM Subscription Rate is \$5.50 a year. Any subscriber may have a free sample copy of APM sent to a friend if a 1st-class stamp is enclosed.



DEAR APM:

Question: I have a Columbia demonstration record with a sales pitch for double-disc records on one side and a Male Quartet singing Kentucky Babe on the other. Was this the 1st two-sided Columbia record?

T.S. San Francisco Answer: No. The first Double -Disc Columbias were put on sale briefly during 1904. They had black and silver labels and each side bore a different single-faced, matrix catalognumber. They were soon withdrawn and Double-Faced Columbia discs did not appear again until 1908. This time they had a newly-designed black and gold label and were assigned a special catalog number which was the same on both sides, beginning with A1 for the 10" discs and A5000 for the 12" discs. The advertising disc you mention appeared at least 2 years later, as the side featuring the Male Quartet was not recorded until 11/11/ 1910, and was also issued as one side of Double - Disc Columbia A866. These records, widely distributed in their day, are found fairly easily (P. Charosh) now.

RECORDING FIRST DIES

On March 31, 1973, Mrs. Maria L. Campbell died in Toms River, New Jersey, at the age of 103. She was reputed to be the oldest living recording artist, having made a tinfoil recording for Thomas Edison in 1878 or 1879, when she lived near Edison's Lab in Menlo Park. According to an interview she gave over WBOM in 1971, she was born on June 28, 1869, and as a small child of eight or nine, was asked to sing into Edison's experimental phonograph. According to her account, clear-headed and good-humored, she was allowed to look through Edison's telescope in return for her singing 'Mary Had a Little Lamb." Her father and uncle, Theodore and George Carman, worked for Edison for many years, and their house was one of the first to be wired for electric lighting. New Jersey newspapers which covered this story (Asbury Park Sunday) Press, Sunday Star Ledger) (Con't on page 6)

WHERE WAS PUMPKIN CENTER? - OR

Some Comments on Early Recorded Rural Comedy

George A. Blacker



I have collected records for many years, and my collection has grown to include nearly all types of musical and spoken items. Despite this variety, I have long maintained a consistent interest in "rural comedy" records, with special emphasis on the two greatest practitioners of the art, Cal Stewart and Charles Ross Taggart. Their stories are not only amusing as comedy, but are a fairly accurate reflection of what rural life in America must have been like over half a century ago.

Calvin E. Stewart, born about 1856 near Charlotte Court House, Virginia, on "a little patch of land so poor we had to fertilize it to make brick", had a variegated career before going on the stage at the National Theater in Cincinnati, Ohio. He worked in lumber camps, packet boats, livery stables and on the railroads. Beginning in the late 1890's, he recorded dozens of his "Uncle Josh Weathersby" stories on cylinder and disc records (the first in 1898?). Few indeed were the catalogs that didn't feature at least one "Uncle Josh" monologue, and Victor kept one of them in the catalog at least as late as 1930, eleven years after Cal's death.

The Stewart monologues were often described as Yankee Dialect, but I feel I must take issue with this. As much as I admire Cal's work, I don't consider his dialect authentic Yankee. Indeed, I know of only one authentic Yankee Dialect monologue recorded before the various "Bert and I" and similar LP's came out in the late 50's. That is "The Village Seamstress", a two-minute Edison cylinder recorded by Miss Elene Foster, released in October, 1905 (No. 9103). There is even some evidence that Cal's first rural character was not a New Englander. I have an old Reed and Dawson brown wax cylinder sung by Stewart, entitled "Jersey Sam, the Farmer (or Farmer's) Man". It is even possible that

(Con't on page 4)

NEW BOOK ANNOUNCED FOR COLLECTORS

APM is proud to announce that plans have already begun for an important new book on antique phonographs. Entitled THE PHONOGRAPH COLLECTOR'S HANDBOOK, it is now being written and compiled by Allen Koenigsberg, who intends it to be the basic reference work in the field. Everything the collector wanted to know about antique phonographs, but couldn't find anywhere, will finally be gathered together in the pages of one book.

As it now stands, the projected format of the book is as follows: the first and major part of the book will be pictures and more pictures of the amazing variety of antique phonographs that are collectors' items today. Of course, all of the basic machines as well as the obscure, will be illustrated in sharp detail, with the emphasis on disc and cylinder machines with outside horns. The period covered will run from 1877 to 1913, probably with an emphasis on the American models. If enough readers wish foreign phonographs included, please let us know. Each picture will also include all necessary information, such as date of manufacture, types of horns and reproducers, accessories and historical significance.

There will also be directories of various kinds: one will include all reputable dealers and repairmen in the field in alphabetical order. Another will list all phonograph manufacturing companies from the Golden Age. Still another will list all the magazines which were published during the early period, as well as modern ones from all over the world. Periodicals will also include the field of record collecting. There will be an extensive catalog of the early books, as well as modern ones, and libraries and museums. And finally, one of the most important parts of the book will feature a collector's directory of permanent wants!

(Con't on page 4, col. 3)

(Con't from page 3)

when he took the character of "Uncle Josh", he didn't entirely eradicate the traces of "Jersey Sam". In one of his early monologues recorded for Berliner and credited to Cal Stewart, the "Yankee Comedian", he tells of losing his return ticket when he leaned out a window on the train, as a result of which he had to buy another. When the conductor learned that this purchase was not actually necessary, said Cal, he expected that man to be the "maddest conductor on the whole Pennsylvania Railroad!" Since when, I ask you, would a New Englander be coming to New York via the Pennsylvania Railroad? The more likely lines would have been the New Haven (if he came via Boston) or possibly the Delaware and Hudson, if he'd come via either the Boston and Albany or the Rutland Lines, either of which had connections to the D & H. In later sketches and songs, he tied Uncle Josh more specifically to a New England locale. In the story of "Jim Lawson's Hogs", for instance, he mentions Concord and Manchester, from which one might infer that Pumpkin Center was located in New Hampshire. In his laughing song, "Ticklish Reuben", he describes himself as from "old Vermont". However, in an early version of his laughing song, "I'm Old, But I'm Awfully Tough", Cal describes himself in the opening lines as a jolly old farmer from Morristown, New Jersey, has "way back in New Jersey". For that reason, I regard Cal's scored a real coup in getting dialect as a sort of Ruritanian bucolic.

I know very little about Charles Ross Taggart, except ragtime concert next month. that he was an electrical engineer when he wasn't making As far as we know, it will be records, that he lived for a time in Vermont, and that he Eubie's only East Coast aphad at one time worked with Dr. Lee DeForest, assisting in pearance this year. As readers research in the field of electronics. One might say it's of APM know (See APM, Mar. rather ironic that all of Taggart's published recordings 1973, p. 2), Eubie is probably were made by the acoustic process that his and DeForest's the oldest living pianist from work ultimately rendered obsolete. Taggart did, however, the Golden Age of the Phonomake one appearance in a recording studio that was equipped graph, and at age 90 still with a microphone. On February 3, 1927, he recorded two performs occasionally. titles at Victor's Camden studios: "The Country Fiddler | The concert will be given and the Autograph Album" and "The Country Fiddler and his Tuesday, May 22, 1973, in the Talking Fiddle". Most unfortunately, these sides were not auditorium of the Morristown issued and it's rather doubtful whether the masters are High School. Tickets are astill preserved in the Camden vaults. It is a regrettable vailable to the general public truth that the master vaults of Victor and Columbia in this and may be obtained by calling country, and (to a lesser extent) EMI in Europe, do not (201)540-1890. Ticket proceeds contain every master that was made by the companies will benefit the Museum. The throughout their history. A variety of factors combined to Concert begins at 8:30 p. m. cause the vaults to resemble the legendary Seymour Suit, sharp, and promises to be an of which it is said that you sey-mour holes than suit.

Taggart did not describe himself as a Yankee Dialect Yesteryear Museum is able to Comedian, nor did he ever use place names that would tie his locate or borrow Blue Amberol imaginary village of Pineville, even by inference, to #5041, entitled Broken Busted any specific location. His recording career was much shorter Blues, they may also play it than Stewart's, but in my opinion, his material is the equal that night. It was the only of Stewart's qualitatively. I recommend especially his cylinder made by Eubie, with "Violin Mimicry" and "Old Country Fiddler on the School his old partner Noble Sissle. Board" (Victor 17700 and 17910). The former is a bit of The evening will also be provirtuosic trick fiddling, and the latter contains comments fessionally recorded for poson education and child discipline that are still relevant sible release. today, nearly sixty years after the record was made.

Although both comedians told stories of their mishaps ready owns a fascinating colin the big city, I feel it's only fair to say that neither | lection of antique musical desuccumbed to the temptation to let their characters be vices of all kinds, and is ogulled by that favorite con trick of buying the Brooklyn pen to the public until late Bridge. Both got laughs from the reactions of their heroes June. Visitors are advised to to the sights, sounds and life-style of the city. For an call the above telephone numexcellent example of this, I recommend Taggart's version ber to make visiting arrangeof "Old Country Fiddler in New York" (Vic. 17700). Both ments. In the meantime, make Stewart and Taggart told many stories about the life and plans to attend this exciting times of their imaginary rural villagers; indeed both Uncle concert - someday soon, you'll Josh and the Old Country Fiddler spent relatively little be able to hear your own ap-(Concluded in June-July issue) plause! time in New York.

(Con't from page 3, col. 3)

Price information will be announced next month. In the meantime, if you have any features, books, magazines, dealers, or sources you would like to be included, please let us know. We would like to make this book as useful and beautiful as possible.

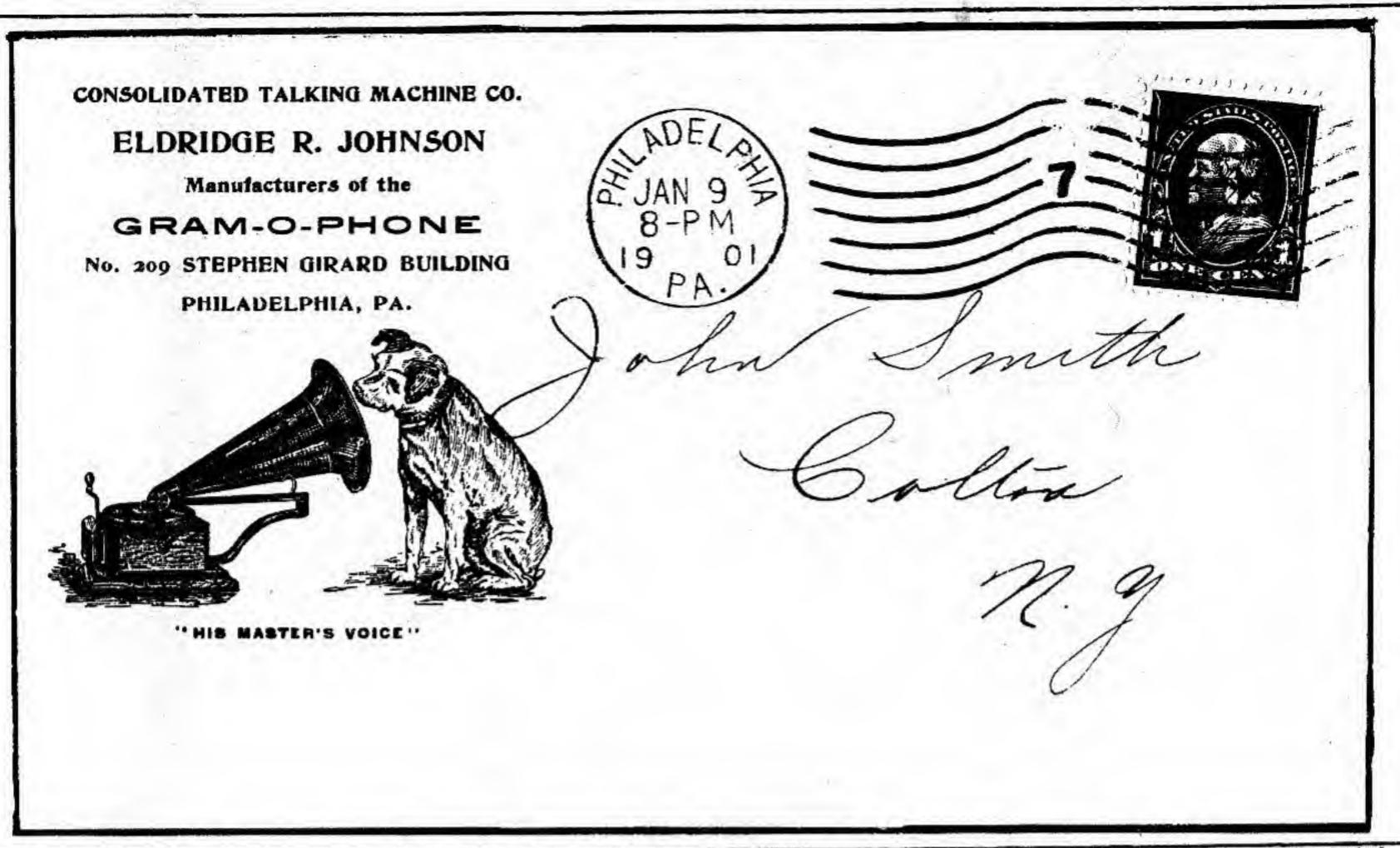
Say you saw it in APM!

EUBIE BLAKE CONCERT TO BE RECORDED

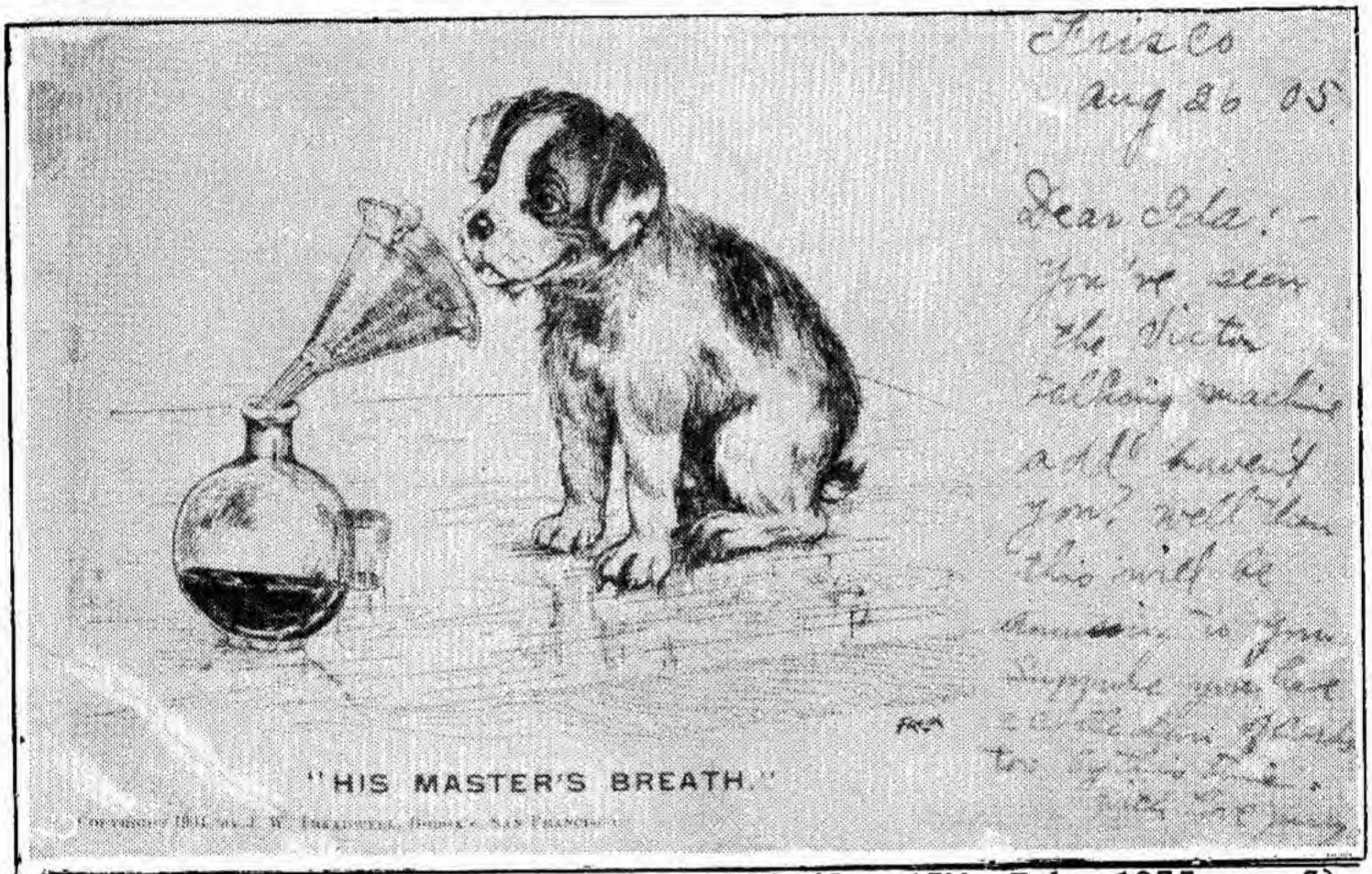
The Yesteryear Museum of Eubie Blake to perform in a

exceptional evening. If the

The Yesteryear Museum al-



Although the Nipper trademark became the official symbol of the Victor Talking Machine Company on October 3, 1901, Eldridge Johnson was using it by mid-1900.



A humorous card, copyrighted in 1904 (See APM, Feb. 1973, p. 3).



.THE EDISON PHONOGRAPH

The first sound reproducing device was an Edison Phonograph, invented by Thomas A. Edison in 1877, at Menlo Park, N. J., where he then had his laboratory. In 1887 Mr. Edison took up his residence and his laboratory work at Orange, N. J., and there, under his personal direction, the Phonograph has been developed into the wonderful musical instrument it is, known and enjoyed in the homes of every nation.

Massani's famous painting, bought & copyrighted for Edison in 1905.

(Con't from page 2) mentioned that the original dition of, you guessed it, record still existed in the "Mary Had a Little Lamb." This National Archives in Washing-version was supposedly renton, D. C., but there is no dered on one of Edison's first issues in the Blue - Label evidence for this. Mrs. Camp- wax cylinders in 1887. bell will be fondly remembered An experimental cylinder matrices, titles, artist credby her many friends and re- recently located, from the turn latives.

ences to this nursery rhyme the children's nursery rhyme. remind us of another early We can only guess the impact "recording artist", Mrs. Har- of this immortal verse which 48 FOOTE ST., CHESHIRE, CONN. a couple of years ago at 105. oneers to use it over and over She had been summoned by one and over. Someday, perhaps, Atwood, to play the piano ren-|what it all meant!

riet Hadden Atwood, who died led so many of the record piof Edison's assistants, George our research will discover

BOOK REVIEW

When Glenn Bridges first published Pioneers in Brass in 1965, it contained 120 pages of pictures and information concerning the earliest performers on the Cornet, Trumpet, and Trombone. Now republished, with up-to-date revisions the book has grown to 171 pages, and contains more photos, old programmes, sheet music, and hard-to-find information than ever before. It is clearly a labor of love.

The cornet was developed in the early part of the 19th century, primarily in Europe, but many of the early practitioners were American. And a talented lot they were too, many of them playing other instruments, giving lessons, writing music, conducting bands, recording for the phonograph, and traveling often. Lovers of brass instruments as well as collectors of their early recordings will revel in the names included in Mr. Bridges' scholarly and personal survey: Mathew Arbuckle, Wm. Paris Chambers, Walter Emerson,

over 60 individual biographies of these early performers. Mr. Bridges' observations run from the technical (Cornet technique, etc.) to the anecdotal (Why did Chambers play a cornet solo at an altitude of 14,500 feet?), and reminisces himself about the early days and the pioneers he knew.

John Hazel, Bohumir Kryl, Jules Levy, Alessandro Liberati,

Al Sweet, Edna White and dozens of others. In all, there are

Although many of the performers included were also record pioneers, this book is not meant to be an exhaustive listing of all their records, but only to give an indication of their range. Among the first would have to be Walter Emerson, whose cylinders were being sold by the New England Phonograph Company shortly after his death on June 2, 1893. Mr. Bridges cites Levy's efforts for Edison in the 1880's, but I can find no reference earlier than 1893, in the numerical list of North American Cylinders. And although Herbert Clarke did make his first Berliner discs in 1899, he had earlier recorded for the New Jersey Phonograph Company in 1893, when he joined Sousa's Band. It is still not known, however, if any of Emerson's or Clarke's cylinders from the 90's have survived. Levy cylinders made for Columbia as early as 1896, though, have turned up.

There were other pioneers in brass who recorded for the phonograph who are not recorded here. They include W. S. Mygrants, T. A. Hudson, John J. Frank, Nicholas Scholl, Alvin Jaeger, John Mittauer, Thomas Clark, and T. E. Partridge. If more information appears about these men, Mr.

Bridges will no doubt include them. All in all, this is a fine book by a man who clearly loves his work. The individuals are fascinating and give an excellent glimpse into an earlier era when the phonograph was young. While supplies last, this handsome hardcover book can be ordered for a reasonable \$7.25 from Mr.

Glenn Bridges, 15625 Callahan, Fraser, Mich. 48026 (Ppd.).

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

I need full data on certain Crescent C-10,000's series -its. Write for list of numbers. of the century, with the voice Also need original or tape of The ever recurring refer- of Victor Emerson, also used Blue Amberol 4917: You're Gonna Wake Up Some Morning by Ethel Finnie. GEORGE BLACKER. 06410.

> For projected book on early language records, need catalogs, manuals, data, advertisements, etc. Orig. or Xerox. Please write. Prof. PHILLIP PETERSEN, 4305 ALAMEDA DE LAS PULGAS, SAN MATTEO, CALIF. 94403.

REED ORGANS WANTED

Cobs for Gem Roller Organ. Please give name of music, condition and price. Write to PHIL DARLING, 188 So. 9th ST. INDEPENDENCE, ORE. 97351.

MECHANICAL MUSIC ITEMS

Buying and Selling all types of Automatic Musical Instruments: Band Organs, Phonographs, cylinder boxes, nickelodeons, pianos, rolls, and discs. G. W. MacKINNON, 453 ATANDO AVENUE, CHARLOTTE, N.C. 28206. (1-74)

PHONOGRAPHS FOR SALE

Will trade original reproducers, styli, horns, phono's, Tinfoil to Stereo, record books, Edison-type doll, etc. for 5" Lambert cylinder records or ?? JOHN HOGG, 2633 N. PORTLAND BLVD., PORTLAND, ORE. 97217. (7-73)

Model Q parts machine \$25.00. 75 Diamond Disc records, most with jackets, 50¢ each. Columbia Language Phone, cylindertype, (sim. to Q), exc. cond. complete except for listening tubes, \$150.00. Nickeled Diamond Disc Reproducer, \$15.00. Six different original Edison Cylinder Catalogs, mint, \$12. each. Shipping extra. ALAN REDFORD, BOX 191, NORFOLK, CONN 06058.

For sale or trade: Edison Standard Combination 2/4 min. Model D w/ Model C & H Reproducers, no horn. What do you have to trade? JOHN A. JUDAY, P.O. BOX 62, SOAP LAKE, WASH. 98851.

PHONOGRAPHS FOR SALE

of Edison, Columbia, Victor Victor I, IV; Governor for DIAMOND DISCS! 300 records in outside-horn machines, & rec-Victor I. Have extra Victor I like-new condition with origords: some in 28000 - 29000 horn, will trade. RICHARD E. inal jackets. Fine cross-secseries, some rare. ROSS M. HOWES COPELAND, 2901 1st ST., MARION tion of popular, classical, 7 HARDEN AVE., CAMDEN, ME. 04843 IOWA 52302 TALK-O-PHONE, complete, good 24-inch brass cylinder phono-charges. FRED KARLIN, 406 ADcondition, decal perfect, \$200 graph horn, excellent to mint ELAIDE DRIVE, SANTA MONICA, plus shipping, firm. ROBERT N. condition only. Cash, or trade CALIF. 90402. BARTLETT, 77 WALNUT AVE., ATH- Model H Reproducer, excellent Record Auction List: Cylinders ERTON, CALIF. 94025. (5-73) condition. JEFFREY FINN, P.O. and Classical 78's, & related Daniel Lee Bohline: Antique BOX 5, WILBRAHAM, MASS. 01095 materials. For free list, write Phonographs. BOX 44, DRUMHELLER ALBERTA, CANADA TOJ OYO. Free Catalog. Please write.

disc gramophone. In original reproducer for Edison Triumph Levitzki, Caruso, Michaelowa, tole-ware box, decorative. Phonograph. Please help. A.M. Kajanus, Bauer, et al. Very Labeled Fairyphone, with horn SAMS, 8400 CHALONS COURT, ST. reasonable. CHATHAM ANTIQUES, ca. 1920. Complete, \$50.00 LOUIS, MO. 63134. (5-73) 228 MAIN ST., CHATHAM, N. J. postpaid. STEVE FREEMAN, 2538 2-min. reproducer for Edison Or call (201) 635-1440. W. 2nd ST., BROOKLYN, N.Y. 11223 Fireside Cylinder Phonograph. Two Edison Diamond Disc ma- Must be in good condition. A. chines in rough shape, very R. MILLER, BOX 112, HARTFORD, good for parts, \$40.00 or swap CONN. 06101. Or (203)633-5710 for Diamond Disc. PAUL C. BOSCO Need complete motor for Co-43 BRAINARD PL., MANCHESTER, lumbia Graphophone Type AK, Cylinders for Edison Talking CONN. 06040.

including turn-table. Similar tor with 4-weight governor, doll, no cylinder. Please help! to Art Deco. Console - type, single-spring, mounted on 61/2 T. CHRISTEN, 2208 BETTINA AVE NELSON, 50 NORTON ST., FREE- Concert, Exhibition, or Colum- Recordings of 19th- and early PORT, N. Y. 11520.

PHONOGRAPHS WANTED

owners: Let us bid on your A Polaroid helps. SEABROOK Number 10; Edison Fireside Sarah Bernhardt, Mary Anderson machines. We pay Texas prices! HOUSE, BOX 129, SEABROOK, TEX. 77586.

10" flat records. HAL BRODSKY 218 ORANGEVIEW LANE, LAKELAND, FLORIDA 33803.

Good price paid for any horntype phonograph. Especially PROVIDENCE, N. J. 07974. want Berliner, Busy Bee Disc or Cylinder, Opera, Concert, Columbia BC, any coin-op. machine. Describe & price. Photo ABERDEEN ST., ROCHESTER, N.Y. 14619. (7-73)

HELP: I NEED PARTS!

Stereo. J. J. JEROME, CEDAR ST., MORRISON, ILL. 61270

HELP: I NEED PARTS!

Say you saw it in APM!

front-mounted disc model sim- Doll. Size 2" wide x 2 7/8" in-Unusual, all glass phonograph ilar to Type AJ. Identify mo- side diameter, brown wax. Have (Kurtzmann), reasonable. DON x 51/2" plate. Also need Victor BELMONT, CALIF. 94002. (5-73) bia reproducers that fit the 20th-Century actors and viofront-mounted Victors or Co-linists, especially Henry Irvlumbias. JOHN J. NAGY, 4026 EL ing, Edwin Booth, Frederick RANCHO DRIVE, DAVENPORT, IOWA Warde, Richard Mansfield, 52806.

Wanted: Antique, baby, miniature C.P. 771, CAUSAPSCAL, MATAPED- 91209. phonos with outside horn, good IA COUNTY, P. QUEBEC, CANADA. Single-face, mostly 7 and 14 Automatic Organ. WILLIAM R. SLATE, 814 CENTRAL AVE., NEW WISC. 53209.

> 14-note crank organ. MARION I. CLEVELAND, OHIO 44120.

RECORDS FOR SALE

categories. Send for free MICH. 49507. (616-452-4104)

RECORDS FOR SALE

Am disposing of my collection Horn bracket, tone - arm for Fabulous collection of EDISON opera. \$450. plus shipping ROBERT PINE, 5820 N. OKETO,

CHICAGO, ILL. 60631. 78's - Classical (some LP's): Antique, hand - cranked, toy Wish to buy Model O, 2-4 min. Mengelberg, Fried, Coates,

RECORDS WANTED

(5-73) Joseph Joachim, Pablo de Sar-Edison Cylinder Phonograph I need complete box, repro- asate, Ludwig Deuvient, &c., ducer, crank for Graphophone and Actresses, especially Type A. Edison Cygnet horn Ellen Terry, Helena Modieska, horn 19 in. maroon. 18" Nip- &c. M. HALE, BOOKSELLER, P.O. per Dog. RENAUD ST-LAURENT, BOX 1187, GLENDALE, CALIF.

or better condition and plays Victor VI motor, crank, turn- inch, but extremely early 10 table or same from Victor V. or 12 inch also. Prefer vo-Also 8"paper rolls for Gately cals. RAYMOND TUMP, 4947 N. SHERMAN BOULEVARD, MILWAUKEE,

Certain Blue Amberols for re-Shield-shaped nameplate, used search. Will pay \$2.50 each & on Jacot safety-check of Mer-up. Send for free list. KOENmod Music Box. Also reeds for IGSBERG, 250 E. 45th, BROOK-

LYN, N. Y. 11203. if possible. MARK KAPLAN, 302 LEVY, 16000 S. WOODLAND ROAD, Any speed: Mandolin and Guitar records with vocal, especially Bailes Brothers; catalogs and folios, single copies, collections. State price, condition. HERITAGE MUSIC SHOP, 2356 BU-Edison Diamond Discs - All CHANAN, S. W., GRAND RAPIDS, Need single comb, 78-tooth, lists. Specify 50000 series, Looking for Columbia Indesfor 15½" Disc - type Regina. 80000 series, or opera. FRED tructible 2-4 min. cylinder Also want book Tinfoil to KARLIN, 406 ADELAIDE DRIVE, records. CHARLES A. JOHNSON, 200 SANTA MONICA, CALIF. 90402. JR., 119 CHURCH AVE., WARWICK (7-73) RHODE ISLAND 02889.

RECORDS WANTED

Records: Cylinders, Diamond-Discs, and Black-Labeled Victors. Plus literature, photographs, and any novelty items related to old phonographs. BUDDY W. PIGG, 2917 WHITING AVENUE, CHARLOTTE, N.C. 28205 (704) 377-2011.

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